

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraph 5, page 1, line 1 and ending on page 2, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

This object is achieved in ~~combination with the features of the preamble of claim 1 in~~ that the distributing means comprises at least one intermediate bottom and a receiving means which is movable relative to said bottom, transports the container away from the insertion opening is provided with a bottom opening, the intermediate bottom being movably supported in the return device and comprising at least one sorting opening which can be positioned below the bottom opening for passing the container therethrough to the selected processing means.